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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**City of Kankakee's Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) Seeking General Contractors**

**KANKAKEE, Ill. (March 10, 2021)** – The City of Kankakee's Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) is seeking qualifications from general contractors to be placed on their revolving list of lead certified contractors who will be working on their Lead Abatement program. The ECDA is also seeking general contractors and subcontractors to be placed on a bidder's list so that they may be invited to bid on residential renovations and repair projects to be contracted by the ECDA as part of its Illinois Housing and Development Authority (IHDA), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and other housing rehab program grants.

"The City of Kankakee has been awarded grants that help low to moderate income residents with various housing rehab needs," states Executive Director of the ECDA, Barbi Brewer-Watson. "We need a robust list of qualified contractors in rotation so we can work consistently to help as many residents as we can. The more qualified contractors, the more houses we can rehab."

The rotating list will be utilized to complete all lead based paint containment and abatement work for the ECDA from May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022. Qualified contractors, inspectors, and assessors are invited to submit two copies of their qualification proposals. Proposals must be received no later than 12:00 p.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021.

Proposals should be delivered to the attention of Barbi Brewer-Watson, Executive Director of the Kankakee Economic and Community Development Agency, and submitted to the City Clerk's office at 304 S. Indiana Avenue, Kankakee, Illinois 60901 by the deadline date. Request for Qualification (RFQ) or incomplete RFQ's received after the deadline will be rejected.

Proposals received after 12:00 p.m. on this date will not be accepted.

“This initiative to develop a revolving list of qualified contractors not only supports the administration's goals to serve as many residents as possible, but also to expand opportunities for more contractors to partner with the City. My hope is to see more diversity in the pool of contractors to include under-represented groups such as women, minorities and veterans. These efforts promote improved city services for our residents, but also address equity and opportunity which supports the work that needs to be done in order to move *Kankakee Forward*,” said Mayor Wells-Armstrong.

For more information, visit the City of Kankakee’s website at <http://www.citykankakee-il.gov/> to obtain a complete packet. Please feel free to contact Executive Director, Barbi Brewer-Watson, at 815-936-7313 or via email at [bibrewer-watson@citykankakee-il.gov](mailto:bibrewer-watson@citykankakee-il.gov) for questions.

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**About the Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA):**

The Kankakee Economic and Community Development (ECDA) is a local government agency whose mission is to improve the lives of Kankakee residents and enhance the economic vitality of communities through housing, economic development and community development. The ECDA administers programs that serve the neighborhoods and residents of the City of Kankakee provided by federal, state and local funding. For more information, contact ECDA at 815-933-0506, Monday – Friday between 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit our website at <https://ecda.citykankakee-il.gov/>.

**About the City of Kankakee, Illinois:**

The City of Kankakee is dedicated to protecting, building and nurturing the community while enhancing lives. We are a historic, vibrant and active riverfront community. We continue to transform into an extraordinary place to dream, grow and thrive. Embracing our diversity, we strive to be progressive, inclusive and innovative. For more information on the City of Kankakee, please visit the website at [www.citykankakee-il.gov](http://www.citykankakee-il.gov).